FISCAL NOTE

HB 202 - SB 406

March 17, 2005

SUMMARY OF BILL: Requires all polling places to be accessible to voters with disabilities by January 1, 2008, unless it would impose an undue financial burden or fundamentally alter the state's voting program. The bill would also create a statewide Voting Advisory Commission for the selection of voting systems in the state.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

Other Fiscal Impact – The State Coordinator of Elections has set aside \$2,500,000 for accessibility of voters' issues which includes \$409,215 from the Department of Health and Human Services. The amount needed will depend on whether counties will be able to solve accessibility issues with temporary changes or if more permanent changes (i.e., new ramps, paved parking lots) will be needed. The increase in state expenditures would be a one-time cost.

Assumption:

 The State Coordinator of Election's office is currently in the process of having all county election commissions survey each of the polling places in their county. Until such surveys are completed and the counties have determined what would be needed to make each polling site accessible, the cost cannot be determined. However, such increase in state expenditures is expected to be significant.

CERTIFICATION:

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

James W. White, Executive Director